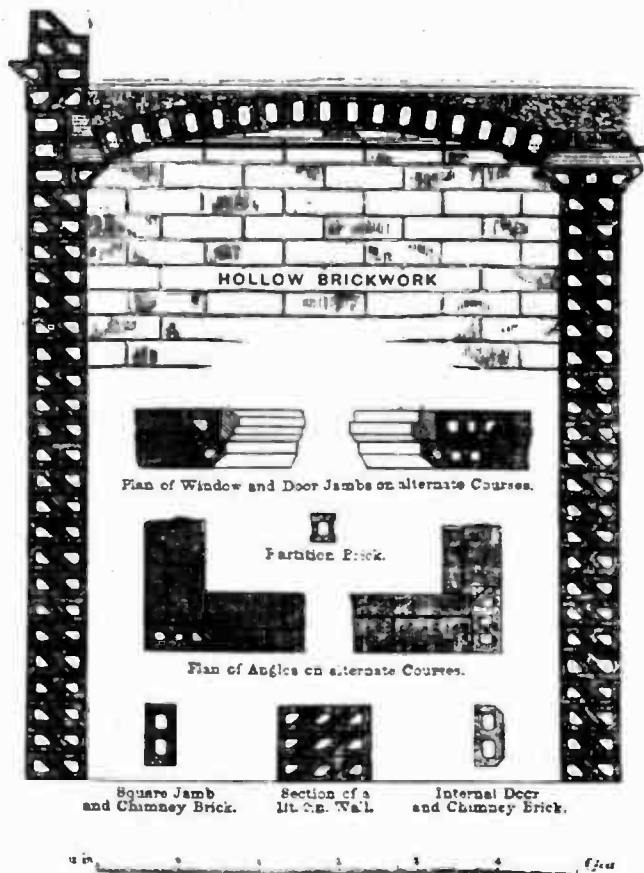
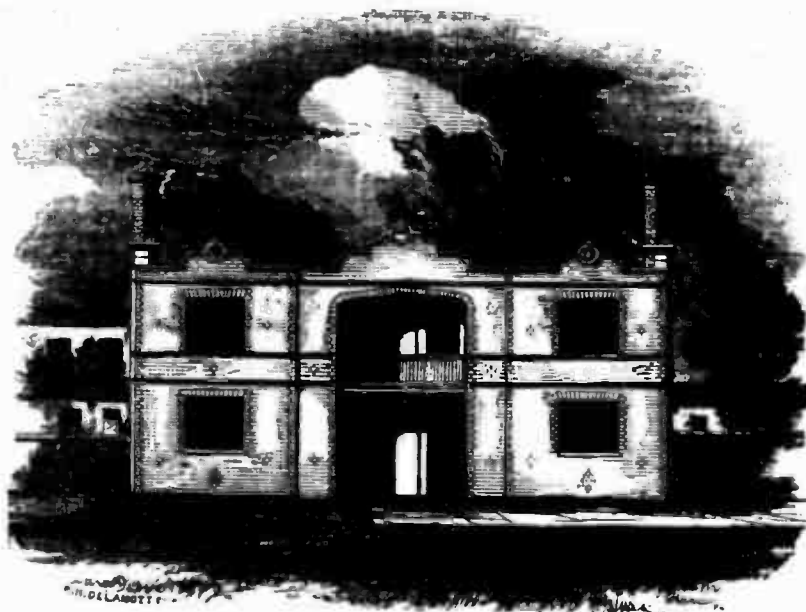


PRINCE ALBERT'S MODEL HOUSES.

MR. ROBERTS, ARCHTCT.



THE MODEL STRUCTURE PLACED BY THE "SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES," IN THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

PRINCE ALBERT'S MODEL HOUSES.

AND THE MODEL STRUCTURE PLACED BY THE "SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES," IN THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

To make our illustration of the model houses erected in Hyde Park complete, we now give an external view of them, and to elucidate the hollow brick construction, as patented by Mr. Roberts, we add a sectional view of one compartment of the model structure placed by the "Society for Improving the Condition of the Labouring Classes," in the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations.

The structure will be found by those who would seek it, on the north side of the building, towards the west end, in class 27. The bricks used in it, we may say, are from the following places—the straw-coloured from Aylesford, near Maidstone; the red from the Buxley Works, near Esher; and the glazed, of a grey tint, in the central compartment, were made by Mr. Seagar, Vauxhall, of a clay from the North of Devon; the light-coloured glazed at the Staffordshire Potteries.

The section is also illustrative of the construction adopted in Prince Albert's Model Houses,—the span of the arches being there increased over the living rooms to 10 feet 4 inches, with a proportionate addition to their rise. The external springers are of cast iron, with brick cores, connected by wrought iron tie rods.

The advantages derivable from the use of hollow bricks are, dryness and warmth, as well as economy of construction—considerations which recommend them as a preventive of the evils that result from the absorption of moisture by common bricks and other porous materials.

For agricultural buildings, and for inclosure, park, or fence walls, they are particularly adapted, as well as for the ordinary dwellings of the labouring classes, for schools, and for houses generally of moderate height, and with the usual weight of roofs and floors, rendering internal battening unnecessary. Their strength may be adapted to circumstances, and where necessary be rendered equal to that of solid bricks.

When used for partitions, or for roof and floor arches, they are fire-proof, deaden sound more effectually, and are considerably lighter than solid brickwork. As a lining to stone or flint walls, they supersede the necessity for battening, and the consequent risk of fire and dry rot is avoided. For cottage floors they are also well adapted.

By the form adopted in the patent hollow brickwork, a perfect bond, running longitudinally through the centre of the wall, is secured; all headers and vertical joints, passing through it are avoided; internal as well as external strength is obtained; and every facility given for the fixing of floor-plates, and other timbers; whilst, by the parallel longitudinal cavities, ample security for dryness is afforded, and great facility presented for ventilation, as well as for the conveyance of artificial heat, and for the transmission of bell-wires, and pipes.

When passing through the machine, or in the process of drying, any number may be readily splayed at the ends for gables, or marked for closures, and broken off as required.

* See p. 311, ante.